



School District of Indian River County

6500 57th Street • Vero Beach, Florida, 32967 • Telephone: 772-564-3000 • Fax: 772-564-3054

Mark J. Rendell, Ed.D. - Superintendent

April 24, 2019

Hello Everyone,

I will be leaving the post of Superintendent on May 24, 2019. It has been a privilege to serve alongside you for the last four years. I am very proud of what we have been able to accomplish during that time. I want to highlight just a few of the achievements. The single best measure of a school district's success is its graduation rate. We have made significant gains in the graduation rate over the last four years.

- As a district, we have improved from 81% to 92%, the highest grad rate ever.
- Our African American student grad rate has increased from 65% to 82%.
- Our Hispanic student grad rate has increased from 79% to 88%
- Our White student grad rate increased from 86% to 96%

We have significantly expanded access to challenging and varied coursework for our students. As one of my mentors used to say, "More good stuff for more kids."

- We have enrolled more students, across all ethnic groups, in Advanced Placement, International Baccalaureate, and Dual-Enrollment Courses than ever before.
- We opened Treasure Coast Technical College to provide training in high-wage, high-skill occupations that will fill immediate needs in the workforce.
- We added a dual enrollment program with Embry Riddle Aeronautical University that focuses on Aeronautical Studies at both Sebastian River and Vero Beach High Schools.

We have strengthened existing partnerships with community organizations and cultivated new ones. These partnerships have provided direct support to students and teachers. Here are some examples:

- With the support of the Learning Alliance we have been able to place additional personnel in our elementary schools to assist struggling readers in the primary grades.
- Our partnership with the Education Foundation has provided funding for schools and individual teachers to implement innovative programs and directly impact learning.
- We have expanded access to after school support opportunities for students in programs such as the Gifford Youth Achievement Center, Boys & Girls Club, Daisy Hope Center, and Crossover Mission.

We are in a human business like no other. None of this happens without the hard work and dedication of the people in our organization and our community. Every one of us plays a role: from transportation, to food service, maintenance, administration, and the district office.

I would like to close by recognizing that the most challenging work, and most rewarding work, happens in the classroom. Over the last four years, I have had the great fortune to witness incredible teaching and learning. The magic that happens in these classrooms reflects the relationship between the adults and children working together.

Thank you, for all the hard work and dedication on behalf of our young people.

Sincerely,

Mark J. Rendell

"Educate and inspire every student to be successful"

Dr. Mara Schiff • Jacqueline Rosario • Laura Zorc • Teri Barenborg • Tiffany M. Justice
District 1 District 2 District 3 District 4 District 5

"To serve all students with excellence"
Equal Opportunity Educator and Employer